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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4892

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: GOA RELEASES SIXTH P.E.N. PRISONER LIST FOR CHACO PRISON,
GIVES EMBASSY ADVANCE WORD ON CORDOBA LIST

REF: BA-1680

1. FOLLOWING THE PATTERN ESTABLISHED IN RECENT WEEKS,
THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ANNOUNCED ON FRIDAY MARCH 10,
THE NAMES OF 325 MEN DETAINED UNDER THE PODER EJECUTIVO
NACIONAL (P.E.N.) IN CHACO PRISON WHICH IS LOCATED IN
RESISTENCIA, CHACO PROVINCE, NORTHERN ARGENTINA.

2. THE ISSUANCE OF THIS, THE SIXTH P.E.N. PRISON LIST
BRINGS THE RECOGNIZED NUMBER OF PEN PRISONERS BY THE GOA
TO 2993. BASED ON THE GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT ON DECEMBER
23 THAT THERE WERE 3607 P.E.N. PRISONERS AND ADJUSTING THAT
NUMBER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WEEKLY MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
P.E.N. DETAINED AND RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENTS, THE CURRENT
PEN PRISONER POPULATION IS APPROXIMATELY 3747. WE EXPECT
THAT THE REMAINING APPROXIMATELY 754 P.E.N. PRISONERS
WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE COMING WEEKS.

3. CORDOBA PENITENTIARY IS ONE OF THE REMAINING PENITENTIARIES

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WHERE P.E.N. PRISONERS ARE DETAINED. IN AN UNUSUAL OCCURANCE,
THE FOREIGN OFFICE WORKING GROUP ON HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMED THE
EMBASSY ON MARCH 10 THAT NINE US INTEREST CASES WHO HAD BEEN

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PREVIOUSLY REPORTED AS DISAPPEARED IN CORDOBA HAD IN FACT BEEN PLACED UNDER THE P.E.N. IT APPEARS THAT THESE ADJUSTMENTS OF PRISONER STATUS WERE MADE RECENTLY IN ANTICIPATION OF THE RELEASE OF THE CORDOBA PENITENTIARY P.E.N. PRISONER LIST.

4. THE HIGH INTEREST CORDOBA CASES NOW REPORTED AS BEING UNDER THE P.E.N. AND THEIR US INTEREST FOLLOW:

CASE NO.	NAME	CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST
171/77/11	ARGUELLO, MARTHA ADA	CONG.MCHUGH; CONG.YATRON
193/77/11	CEBALLOS, MARIA EMILIA	AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
173/77/11	COLASKI, ALBERTO DOMINGO	CONG.YATRON
195/77/11	COLELLA, LIDIA MARTA	AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
196/77/11	COLELL, ANGELA DOLORES	AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
174/77/11	CORDERO, JULIO IGNACIO	CONG.YATRON, CONG.MCHUGH
178/77/11	LUNA, GERARDO	CONG.MCHUGH; AMN. INTERN.
200/77/11	SURGHI, SUSANA LEDA BARCO DE	AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
184/77/11	TORRES, RAMON OSVALDO	CONG.YATRON, CONG.MCHUGH

5. TWO NAMES ON THE CHACO LIST ARE OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THE U.S.: HUGO FRANCISCO TORRES (204/77/11) WAS REPORTED BY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL TO HAVE DISAPPEARED ON OCTOBER 7, 1977. ROQUE ARNOLDO ROMERO (223/77/12) FROM CORDOBA, HAS BEEN UNDER P.E.N. SINCE NOVEMBER, 1974. THERE HAS BEEN INTEREST IN HIS DETENTION FROM THE AFL/CIO AND CONGRESSMAN MCHUGH.

6. CHACO RELEASE LIST WILL BE POUCHED ARA/ECA 3/16/78 FOR BUMPUS.
CASTRO

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